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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/062,279	01/30/2002	Norihiro Imai	OMRNP015	9864
22434	7590	03/23/2005	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP P.O. BOX 70250 OAKLAND, CA 94612-0250			AWAD, AMR A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2675	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/062,279	Applicant(s) IMAI ET AL.	
	Examiner Amr Awad	Art Unit 2675	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/11/04</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114*

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/16/2004 has been entered.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi (US Patent NO. 6,219,021) in view Hiroyuki (Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-242315 provided by the Applicant).

Regarding **independent claims 1, 4, 7 and 10**, Izumi teaches a method of controlling a backlight of a display device by teaching a display control device which allows reduction of power consumption by a backlight when data such as textual data or drawing data is displayed on a display panel with the backlight on, by changing display form of data for improving visibility of the data on a display (column 2, lines 42-49).

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Furthermore, Izumi teaches how to provide at least one display setting group including a message to be displayed by teaching a display control device comprising a display panel for displaying data containing textual and/or drawing data; a display buffer for storing data to be displayed on the display panel; a display control section for controlling display of the display panel; a backlight for illuminating the display panel; an illumination instruction section for outputting a backlight illumination instruction; and an illumination control section for controlling the illumination of the backlight according to the backlight illumination instruction from the illumination instruction section, wherein the display control section changes a display configuration of the data to be displayed on the display panel when the illumination instruction section outputs the backlight illumination instruction (column 2, lines 50-62).

Furthermore, Izumi teaches a display panel for displaying data containing at least one of textual and drawing data, a display buffer for storing the data to be displayed on the display panel, a backlight for illuminating the display panel and an illumination instruction section for outputting a backlight illumination instruction, wherein the computer program performing the functions of: causing a computer operation to control illumination of the backlight according to the backlight illumination instruction from the illumination instruction section; causing a computer operation to control display of the display panel; and causing a computer operation to change a display configuration of the data from a first configuration to a second configuration to be displayed on the display panel when the illumination instruction section outputs the backlight illumination instruction, wherein said second configuration enables a reduction in time needed to

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view said data as compared to said first configuration in order to reduce illumination time and corresponding battery consumption; and providing an illumination time period setting table storing a backlight illumination time period per one character and calculating an illumination time period corresponding to the number of characters of the data to be displayed on the display panel by reference to the illumination time period setting table, wherein when the illumination instruction section outputs the backlight illumination instruction, the illumination of the backlight is controlled according to the calculated illumination time period (column 13, lines 40 through column 14, lines 31).

Izumi does not expressly teach that the controller for specifying parameter is a programmable controller.

However, Hiroyuki teaches a programmable controller system equipped with the programmable controller (12) where the I/O comment for the maintenance of a program is written to a memory in combination by a support tool and the setting display unit (10) equipped with display part (13) which is connected to the programmable controller (12) and sets data regarding a control state and an operation state in association with its control contents; and the setting display unit (10) inputs the character string of the I/O command from the programmable controller (12) and display it on the display part (13) (abstract).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the teaching of Hiroyuki, having a programmable controller to be incorporated to Izumi's device so as motivated by Hiroyuki, to lighten the burden on a screen designer of the setting display unit and to

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evade parameter misalteration by an operator by eliminating the need of screen generation on a setting display unit side.

Regarding **claims 2, 5, 8 and 11**, in further discussion of claims 1, 4, 7 and 10, Izumi teaches how the user program is stored in ROM 6 which is different from a system program memory (RAM 5) that stores a system program for the programmable controller represented by CPU 5 (figure 3 at 5-7, 13, column 6, lines 38-43).

Regarding claims 3, 6, 9 and 12, in further discussion of claims 1, 4, 7 and 10, Izumi teaches a display control device includes a display panel for displaying data containing textual and/or drawing data, a display buffer for storing data to be displayed on the display panel, a display control section for controlling display of the display panel, a backlight for illuminating the display panel, an illumination instruction section for outputting a backlight illumination instruction, and an illumination control section for controlling the illumination of the backlight according to the backlight illumination instruction from the illumination instruction section wherein the display control section changes a display configuration of the data to be displayed on the display panel when the illumination instruction section outputs the backlight illumination instruction (see Abstract). Furthermore, Izumi teaches how a timer is used to determine whether the backlight is switched on or off (figure 5 at S29-S32).

Regarding **claim 13**, in further discussion of claim 10, Izumi teaches a system program memory ROM 6 that stores a system program for the CPU 5; and a user program memory 13 which is different from the ROM 6 and stores the user program (figure 3 at 5, 6, 13, column 7, lines 10-20).

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Regarding **claim 14**, in further discussion of claim 4, Izumi teaches how the control command is provided to a display command that is a command to display as the message a specified data item in the user program (column 2, lines 50-63).

Regarding **claim 15**, since Hiroyuki shows a programmable controller, then it is inherent that the user would be able to modifying the user program.

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's amendments and arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Amr Awad whose telephone number is (571) 272-7764. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on (571)272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A. A.

AMR A. AWAD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amir Ahmad Awad", written over a horizontal line.